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industry, which has plants scattered throughout all the small towns of the republic, mainly in the north and the west, leads the field. Meat packing, flour milling, and sugar refining are other activities. Next in importance are the engineering and the textile industries, which are concentrated at Riga and Liepaya. Also produced are matches, paper, rubber goods, chemicals, and tobacco. Fisheries are important along the coast, sardines, herring, and cod constituting the largest catch. Of all the Baltic republics, Latvia has the greatest tourist trade which descends yearly on the famous Riga beaches west of the city and the health resort (sulphur springs) of Kemeri near by.

Livestock raising is the chief agricultural occupation, with emphasis on dairy farming and milk, butter, and cheese production. Hogs are raised for bacon and other meat products, which together with eggs form the chief export items. The development of stock raising, as elsewhere in the Baltic Region, is favored by the humid climate and the abundance of meadowland. Crops are strongly slanted toward the production of fodder grasses and potatoes for stock feed. Grains cover about one half the sown acreage and are also partly used for forage. Rye, oats, and barley are emphasized. The main industrial crops are flax and sugar beets; garden crops are grown in a few suburban areas.

Power for the industry is furnished chiefly by the Kegums hydroelectric station on the Western Dvina, southeast of Ogre. This plant, which has a capacity of 55,000 kilowatts, is the only major water-power producer in the Baltic Region. The local peat supply, which is used in form of briquettes, is also of some importance in the industrial fuel scheme, although to a lesser extent than in Lithuania.

Riga, located on the Western Dvina, its center about 10 miles from the Gulf of Riga, of the Baltic Sea, is the largest city in the Baltic Region. An old city, dating from the early thirteenth century, it contains two thirds of all the Latvian industries. It is a large port, the terminus of a number of rail lines and of the timber flotage on the river. Its chief industries are its engineering enterprises, which produce rolling stock for electric trains, subways, and tramways, electrical equipment for automobiles, and telephone and radio apparatus. In its northeastern outskirts, on lake Kishozero, are superphospate and paper mills. Other products are textiles, glass, cement, rubber goods, and bicycles. Its port installations and shipyards extend along both sides of the river to the outer port of Daugavgriva, where most of the lumber is loaded. West of the city, between the Lielupe and the sea, on a narrow sand